

Re: Are low/lower cost USB Oscilloscope's any good?

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- *From:* "Phil Allison" <[philallison@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:philallison@xxxxxxxxxxx)>
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"news.valornet.com"

I am just trying to mess around with electronics stuff, and I don't know too much, but I've put a circuit or two together with help from this forum and others. I've got a fluke DMM and clampmeter, but I'd really like to be able to scope some stuff sometimes. I just don't know if I could part with the money for a portable scope like a fluke 123 however just for playing around. I have some questions and appreciate any suggestions for what might be good:

1. Do most scopes have decent voltage input on them? For example, can you hook most of them up to line power (120vac or 240vac)? I am assuming the fluke can do this no sweat, but I don't know.
2. I also see a bunch of references to X10 probes. Are these used to reduce the voltage to something a scope can use, for example 240VAC --> 24VAC ?
3. Do you have any recommendations for a scope that works on a notebook that is relatively low cost that has decent features (keep in mind I have no idea what features you would want in a scope).

I would even consider some of these scopes that are free based ones that work with a sound card, but my question is, what type of voltage input can you get with a microphone jack???

\*\* Maybe one of these is all you need.

<http://www.dse.com.au/cgi-bin/dse.storefront/45809b3e05c4671c2740c0a87f9c0727/Product/View/Q1803>

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..... Phil